

REMARKS

Please cancel Claim 31 without prejudice. Claims 1-8, 24-30 and 32 of the present application remain pending. Claims 1-7, and 24, and 28 are amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the Claim amendments.

SPECIFICATION

The Abstract is objected to for using a redundant term. The Applicants submit that the wording of the amended abstract is not needlessly redundant and respectfully request that the objection to the Abstract be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 24-26, and 28, and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by McCall et al. (U.S. 2002/0188522), hereinafter referred to as "McCall." Claim 1 is directed to a computer implemented method and recites (emphasis added):

selecting an electronic device;
generating a command to said electronic device to identify at least one data category that said electronic device is capable of monitoring;
commanding said selected electronic device to capture geographically distributed data related to said data category and wherein said geographically distributed data is automatically captured by said selected electronic device in response to said commanding;
receiving said automatically captured geographically distributed data; and

storing said received geographically distributed data.

Claim 5 is directed to an electronic device and recites similar claim limitations. The Applicants respectfully submit that McCall does not teach or suggest receiving or generating a command to identify at least one data category that an electronic device is capable of monitoring as recited in independent Claims 1 and 5 of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 1 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) are overcome.

Claims 2-4 depend from Claim 1 and recite additional claim limitations descriptive of embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 2-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) are also overcome.

Claims 6 and 7 depend from Claim 5 and recite additional claim limitations descriptive of embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claims 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) are also overcome.

With reference to Claims 24 and 28, Claim 24 recites a method of collecting geographically distributed data using a portable electronic device and recites (emphasis added):

- (A) receiving a command from said user to automatically capture data;
- (B) automatically capturing said data;
- (C) transmitting said automatically captured data and wherein said automatically captured data comprises location data of said portable electronic device; and
- (D) sending a verifiable identity of said portable electronic device.

Claim 28 recites similar claim limitations. The Applicants respectfully submit that McCall does not teach or suggest sending a verifiable identity of a portable electronic device in addition to automatically captured data comprising location data of the device. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 24 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) are overcome.

Claims 25-27 depend from Claim 24 and recite additional claim limitations descriptive of embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) are also overcome.

Claims 29-30 depend from Claim 28 and recite additional claim limitations descriptive of embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 29-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) are also overcome.

CLAIM REJECTIONS 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 4, 7, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCall in view of McDonnell et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,799,032), hereinafter referred to as "McDonnell." As discussed above, the Applicants respectfully submit that McCall does not teach or suggest receiving or generating a command to identify at least one data category that an electronic device is capable of monitoring as recited in independent Claims 1 and 5 of the present invention.

The Applicants respectfully submit that McDonnell fails to overcome the shortcomings of McCall. More specifically, McDonnell does not teach or suggest receiving or generating a command to identify at least one data category that an electronic device is capable of monitoring as recited in independent Claims 1 and 5 of the present invention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 4 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are overcome.

CONCLUSION

Based on the arguments presented above, the Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-7, and 24-32 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, the Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these Claims.

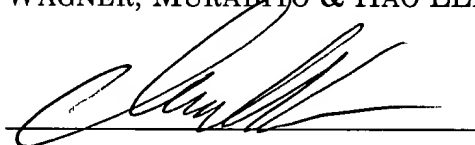
The Applicants have reviewed the reference cited but not relied upon. The Applicants did not find this reference to show or suggest the present claimed invention: U.S. 6,834,285.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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